



Proclamation



Recreation and Parks Month

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Carrboro, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, since 1985, Parks and Recreation Month has been celebrated every July; in 2009, the U.S. Congress officially designated July as National Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS, our parks and recreation programs are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all residents; these programs contribute to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, throughout the FY 2018-19, the Town of Carrboro utilized 150 volunteers who provided over 4,300 hours of service; and

WHEREAS, in FY 2018-19, the Town of Carrboro offered nearly 400 programs including youth and adult classes, athletic programs, camps, workshops, clinics and community events such as Carrboro Day, Carrboro Music Festival, Carrboro Film Festival, West End Poetry Festival, July 4th Celebration, Halloween Carnival, Open Streets, Freight Train Blues Series; and

WHEREAS, during FY 2018-19, our Youth Council contributed 281 service hours to the community; they have been involved in numerous community service projects including assisting with the First Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, tutoring at local middle schools, Open Streets, Keep Carrboro Beautiful, and other Town events; and

WHEREAS, understanding the importance of maintaining park infrastructure, we are working with Stewart Inc. and Engineered Construction Company on construction of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Park; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas enhance the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, hereby proclaim July 2019 as **Recreation and Parks Month** in the Town of Carrboro. I encourage all residents to take advantage of the wonderful classes, camps, programs and events provided by our Recreation and Parks Department, and enjoy our parks and natural areas.

This the 25th day of June, 2019



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor